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among women than among men; in cretins these lines were found in 66% of the cases examined (39 in number), usually crossed by transverse and oblique lines so as to form an intricate network, a disposition rarely found in the hands of the insane; in idiots (20) and insane patients (20) longitudinal lines were found in 45% and in born delinquents, moral irresponsibles and epileptics (44) in 52% of the cases. The most frequent longitudinal line is that extending to the base of the middle finger, that extending to the base of the third finger is less frequent, and that extending to the base of the little finger occurs most rarely.

The form and proportion of the different parts of the hand have also been studied and the following have come to be considered simian characteristics, a very short thumb, the middle finger much shorter than the length of the rest of the hand (as in many of the idiots studied by Morselli and Tamburini), the index of the hand in comparison with the stature higher than 11-12, *i. e.*, the height more than 11-12 times the length of the hand. On this point researches have been made by Hovelaque, Hervé, Quetelet, Pruner, Bey, Lombroso and Marro, both upon simians and among different human races. They found the following indices:

Gorilla,	14.5	Chinese,	12.8	Australians,	11.9
Chimpanzee,	18	Berbers,	11.1	Todas,	11.8
Orang,	20.8	Palinese,	10.4	White races,	10 (nearly)
		Javanese,	13	Arabs,	11.1
		Hottentots,	11.8	Japanese,	12.8

In epileptics Féré found an average index of from 11.5-11.7; in normal individuals Marro found it to be 10.6 and in delinquents 10.1-12.9. In regard to the greater length of the second finger as compared with the third there has been much discussion, but without arriving at any definite conclusions.

The author examined the index in all of his subjects, normals, cretins, idiots, insane, epileptics and born delinquents, but found no great difference in the percentages of the various forms, save that a low index was frequent in cretins. The length of the thumb was also investigated, but without marked results, except that the very short thumb occurred with greater frequency in cretins, and the very long thumb among idiots and imbeciles. Other proportions of the fingers were also studied, but without obtaining definite results. The article is illustrated and the illustrations show excellently various simian and human types, making available in very compact form the results of much research.

THEODATE L. SMITH.

Rivista Italiana di Neuropatologia, Psichiatria ed Elettroterapia.
diretta da G. d'Abundo, Professore Ordinario di Clinica delle
malattie Nervose e Mentali nella R. Università di Catania, Vol.
I, Fasc. 5, Maggio, 1908. pp. 48.

This new periodical, published monthly, is, as its name indicates, devoted to neuropathology, psychiatry and electrotherapy. The present number contains an article by Prof. F. Del Greco, Director of the Insane Asylum at Como, on "Incomplete Recoveries from Insanity," and calls attention to a class of patients who, having recovered a sufficient degree of stability and normality to be discharged from the asylum, are, nevertheless, not fully competent to cope with the complexities of the ordinary conditions of life, especially in cases where the struggle for existence is likely to press heavily upon them. Such patients, though apparently normal or nearly so under sheltering conditions, may, under an unfavorable environment, become dangerous to themselves and to others. Some of them seem to realize this and do not

wish to be discharged from the asylum. Dr. Del Greco makes a plea for the establishment of special colonies, a system which has already proved successful in Germany and France, where patients of this class may be under supervision, but not subject to the restraints of an institution.

The second article is a clinical report of a case of Jacksonian epilepsy with a detailed account of the findings of the autopsy.

Considerable space is devoted to book reviews and the number closes with a report of the first Congress of the Italian Society of Neurology, held April 8th-12th, at Naples. A résumé is given of the following papers presented at the Congress: Aphasia, by Prof. G. Mingazzini; Physiology and Pathology of the Frontal Lobes, by Prof. Bianchi; and the Structure of Nerve Cells, by Prof. Fragnito. Announcements for the Congress of 1909, to be held at Genoa, are also given as follows: Prof. Catola will discuss Acute Myelitis from the clinico-experimental point of view; Prof. d'Abundo, the Physio-pathology of the Optic Thalamus; and Prof. Moreschi, Serum-diagnosis in Nervous Diseases.

THEODATE L. SMITH.

A Mind that Found Itself, an autobiography. By CLIFFORD WHITTINGHAM BEERS. Longmans, Green & Co., New York, 1908. pp. 363.

The author was a rather brilliant graduate of Yale in the class of 1897, who, soon after leaving college and entering business had an attack of acute melancholia and threw himself from the fourth story window of his home, was taken to an asylum where after some three years he regained his equilibrium, was out for a few days and then alternated into a very exalted and maniacal state after which he very slowly recovered. His book is of very great value and interest from two points of view; first, because he has remembered with such detail the items of his delusions and can reproduce in a purely objective way his states of mind when insane and describes so vividly how gradually everything cleared up. This is its psychological part. In this sense the book is only slightly like that describing the recovery of Guillaume Monod who remembered although he still accepted in later years a few of the insanities of his morbid period. The second end achieved by this book and perhaps the chief one intended by the author is a criticism of the present management of our insane asylums, chiefly, though not entirely, the private ones. The evil lies first of all with the assistants who are often ignorant, utterly untrained, passionate, vindictive and cruel, subjecting patients sometimes to endless humiliations and outrage which they conspire not to see and to conceal from the physicians in charge. Sometimes physicians themselves indulge personal spites and dislikes and often, in asylums the heads of which have made great pretence of the "no restraint system", use it in some cases in its very worst form. To be strapped so tight that even the fingers cannot be moved and that every breath comes hard, so that the clothes cannot be pulled up at night and to be left to moan in pain for twelve hours for a series of days is an inhumanity that ought to be abolished. These things this author suffered and, as we may well believe him, to his detriment. If his book contributes to effect a reform in this respect alone, it will do great service.

Mental Pathology in its relation to Normal Psychology: A Course of Lectures delivered in the University of Leipzig. By G. STÖRRING. Translated by T. Loveday. Swan Sonnenschein & Co., London, 1907. pp. x, 298.

Professor Störring's *Vorlesungen über Psychopathologie* first appeared in 1900, and were at once welcomed by students both of normal and of abnormal psychology. The book met a real need, and